Commercial & Industrial Building Energy Code Baseline Study

National Codes Conference

NH Governor's Office of Energy & Community Services - Kwasi Asante and

GDS Associates - Scott Albert 07/12/00

Background Issues

- #Feedback on Residential Energy Codes Workshop
- **#Limitations on Compliance Process**
- ****Lack of adequate knowledge of the issues** to address on C&I codes
- #Decision to Investigate, Diagnose, and Administer Solutions

Preliminary Evaluations

- #Feedback from Building Officials
- #Feedback from Architects invited to a Focus Group Discussion
- ****Low Incidence of Permit Applications at the PUC**

Strategies to Accomplish Goals & Objectives

- **#Goals & Objectives Established**
- #Requirements to Achieving G & O
- ****Available Funds**
- **#**Solicit Contributions and Participation from other Stakeholders
- #How to Accomplish as much with limited funds

Survey of Commercial New Construction Activities in NH

GDS Associates and ENTECH Engineering

July 12, 2000





Overview

- **XThe GDS/Entech Team**
- **#Summary of Findings**
- **#**Methodology
- **♯**Data Collection Results
- ****Recommendations and Next Steps**
- **#Conclusions**

The GDS/Entech Team

#GDS Associates - Prime Contractor

#Entech Engineering - Subcontractor

#Significant Field and Policy Experience

Summary of Findings: Code Utilization and Compliance

#Building Code Officials rely almost solely on architect/design engineer certifications

#Design Professionals are not testing for compliance when developing plans/specs

****Additional training is needed targeted to designers, contractors & code officials**

Summary of Findings: Measure Specific

****Technology has surpassed current NH code requirements in many areas**

**Nearly half of facilities reviewed, met or exceeded code in all major categories (i.e., Building Envelope, HVAC - Heating, HVAC - Cooling, Electric Power/Motors, Lighting Fixtures, and Energy Management Systems)

Methodology

- **#C/I New Construction Profile (1997-1999)**
- **#Plans & Print Reviews (30 buildings)**
- **#Physical Site Inspections (12 facilities)**
- #Equipment Supplier/Design Engineer, and Building Official Interviews (16 surveys)
- Review of Existing Studies (20 reports)
- **#**Tentative Findings & Roundtables

Data Collection Results

1999 CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY BY COUNTY & HIGHEST TOWN

County/Town	# of Projects		
	Town	Total	
Belknap - Laconia	15	41	
Carroll - Conway/N. Conway	17	44	
Cheshire - Keene	63	99	
Coos - Berlin	7	23	
Grafton - Lebanon/W. Lebanon	39	109	
Hillsborough - Manchester	187	512	
Merrimack - Concord	112	183	
Rockingham - Portsmouth	100	369	
Strafford - Rochester	45	142	
Sullivan - Claremont	<u>11</u>	<u>31</u>	
Total	596	1,553	

Construction Profile Results

1999 CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY BY COUNTY & BUILDING SIZE*

County	Small (< 20,000 sq. ft.)	Large (>=20,000 sq. ft.)		
Belknap	2	4		
Carroll	6	2		
Cheshire	8	14		
Coos	1	2		
Grafton	21	18		
Hillsborough	63	63		
Merrimack	27	20		
Rockingham	60	63		
Strafford	23	10		
Sullivan	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>		
Total	217	199		

^{*} Note: Information on building size was not available on all projects identified in the 1999 commercial and industrial construction activities profile database.

Construction Profile Results - continued

1999 CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY BY COUNTY & BUILDING TYPE*

County	Assembly	Hospital	Housing	Manuf- acturing	Office	Retail	School	Warehouse
Belknap	5	_	4	4	3	3	7	-
Carroll	10	_	8	-	2	7	5	2
Cheshire	16	4	6	3	11	12	8	9
Coos	8	-	1	-	2	2	5	-
Grafton	21	6	12	3	30	11	16	2
Hillsborough	55	9	35	16	94	73	57	21
Merrimack	29	2	16	4	25	27	16	9
Rockingham	50	8	34	14	57	59	23	29
Strafford	24	4	13	6	12	8	16	7
Sullivan	<u>6</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	224	33	132	51	242	205	153	80

^{*} Note: information on building type was not available on all projects identified in the 1999 commercial and industrial construction activities profile database.

Premium, Standard and Code Efficiency Practices

- **#**Cornerstone of this research project
- **#**Covers building envelope, electric power, HVAC equipment, service water heating, lighting fixtures, lighting controls, and energy management system measures
- **#**Initially based on secondary data sources
- #Tested and revised during interviews, site visits and roundtables

Measure-Specific Results

Equipment or Building Practice Addressed	Summary of Findings from Plans and Prints
in NH Commercial Energy Code	Reviewed and Sites Inspected
Building Envelope	Most measures and practices were in
	compliance
HVAC - Heating	All unit efficiencies exceeded code
HVAC - Cooling	53% exceeded code/27% met/20% below code
Electric Power/Motors	All exceeded code
Lighting Fixtures	Generally exceeded code
Lighting Controls	Specified very infrequently
Energy Management Systems	Found in most facilities sampled, although
	sophistication varied by size (mostly
	overridden to solve immediate comfort
	problems)
Service Water Systems	24% did not meet code insulation requirements
Energy Recovery Practices/Energy Storage	Not seen in facilities reviewed

Recommendations

****Near-Term Actions**

- Communicate findings and pursue training
- Integrate code with available software tools

#Mid-Term Actions

Use findings to help prioritize potential follow-up initiatives and to aid in design of targeted energy efficiency programs

#Longer-Term Actions

Consider updating and clarifying energy code

Conclusions

- ****Valuable approach to assess status quo**
- #Increases awareness and engages key stakeholders and change agents
- ****Promotes constructive dialogue between building code officials, architects/design engineers, equipment vendors, utilities and their regulators**
- #Provides solid foundation/rationale for energy code updates